

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 197551
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S:DANDERSON

APPROVED BY S/S:DANDERSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 197551

NODIS

CHEROKEE

LONDON FOR STREATOR, PARIS FOR HARTMAN, BONN FOR STOESSEL,
WHITE HOUSE ONLY FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT PRETORIA 4228 ACTION STATE AUG 19.

QUOTE S E C R E T PRETORIA 4228

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2, 3

TAGS: PARM, SF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM

REF: STATE 197389, PRETORIA 4222, PRETORIA 4211,

1. I DELIVERED THE SECRETARY'S LETTER TO PIK BOTHA TO
BRAND FOURIE AT 1400. AFTER READING IT HE SAID HE THOUGHT
SECRET

SECRET

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THE LOCATION DESCRIBED COINCIDED WITH THE TESTING SITE HE
HAD MENTIONED YESTERDAY. TO MAKE SURE, HE PLACED A PHONE CALL.
FORTY MINUTES LATER THE PERSON CONTACTED CALLED
TO CONFIRM THAT THIS WAS A "MILITARY TESTING FACILITY."
I ASKED FOURIE IF HE COULD BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT THE NATURE
OF THE TESTING GOING ON AT THE FACILITY. HE THOUGHT THAT
MISSILE TESTING WAS INVOLVED BUT PREFERRED TO CONSULT WITH

MILITARY AUTHORITIES CONCERNED BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO
CHARACTERIZE THE SITE.

2. NOTING THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO THE SENDING OF A SMALL
US TECHNICAL TEAM, I ASKED WHETHER I COULD EXPECT A RESPONSE
WITHIN THE NEXT TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. FOURIE REPLIED
THAT WITH THE PM OUT OF TOWN AND GIVEN THE NEED TO
CONSULT MILITARY AUTHORITIES BECAUSE A MILITARY
INSTALLATION IS INVOLVED, HE DOUBTED WHETHER A RESPONSE
WOULD BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK. I POINTED
OUT THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT THAT IT IS IN THE INTEREST
OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS THAT THE VISIT TAKE PLACE NO LATER
THAN SUNDAY, AUGUST 21. HE NODDED BUT MADE NO FURTHER COMMENT.

3. ATMOSPHERE TODAY WAS CORDIAL AND RELAXED. I ASKED
FOURIE WHETHER BOTHA HAD CALLED OWEN ON THE RHODESIAN
QUESTION AND HE SAID HE HAD.

4. DEPARTMENT PASS LONDON AND PARIS AS APPROPRIATE. BOWDLER
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 08/19/77, ALLEGATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NUCLEAR TESTS, NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE197551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DANDERSON
Enclosure: DC IS ALSO X2-3
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770005-0127
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770843/aaaabjwp.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7ad28457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 1545947
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Subject: POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM
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To: LONDON PARIS MULTIPLE
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